

3rd NATIONAL CONSULTATION DIALOGUE in Hungary

1. General Data

Country:	Hungary
Organizer:	GWP Hungary, National Directorate of Water Management, Hungarian Hydrological Society
Date & Place:	6 July 2016, Debrecen
Expected participants (institutions)	Ministry of Interior, National Directorate of Water Management, Chamber of Agriculture, KEVITERV AKVA Ltd. Water Directorates of (Middle-Danube, Middle-Tisza, Trans-Tisza, Lower-Tisza, Upper-Tisza, Lower-Danube, North Transdanubian, Middle Transdanubian), Debrecen University, Szeged University, Borsodchem, Met Service, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Water, KSZI Ltd., VTK Innosystem, Apertech Ltd., Marag Ltd., K+F Consulting Ltd. (see attached list of participants)

2. Objectives & Programme

Main objective of the 3rd NCD (which processes are you targeting)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to re-affirm/keep the contacts with the policy level stakeholders established in the 1st and 2nd NCDs; • to present recent results including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Guidelines of the IDMP CEE, ○ the newly developed Hungarian Drought Index (HDI), ○ the drought management concept of the National Directorate of Water Management (OVF), ○ monitoring achievements, ○ climate change effects, ○ experiences of operative drought management, etc. • to analyse current drought management policy (identifying main gaps and uncertainties) in the country; • to discuss future activities that need to be taken in order to establish/maintain drought management process on national level; • to discuss/prepare an action plan for preparation of the Drought Management Plan and to identify the necessary changes which concern national drought management policy; • to encourage the establishment of the national drought committee.
How will the 3rd NCD contribute to the development of the Drought Management Plan?
From the 3 rd NCD it is expected that the post-impact interventions, the reactive, waiting-for-compensation type of attitude will change and the risk-based drought management will gain recognition and a far sighted drought strategy will replace the previous practice, based on a fully fledged monitoring system, a newly developed drought index with threshold values of different stages under the supervision of an inter-

sectoral drought committee.

Programme of the 3rd NCD

14.45 Registration

15.00 Drought management as part of the operative defence system (drought strategy) (István Láng, OVF)

15.15 The Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans of GWP CEE (József Gayer, GWP Hungary)

15.30 Drought and climate change in Hungary (György Sipos, University of Szeged)

15.45 Drought indices and their critics (Balázs Benyhe, ATIVIZIG)

16.00 Monitoring soil moisture and applicability of results (Károly Fiala and István Fehérváry, ATIVIZIG)

16.15 Monitoring system appropriate for quantification of extreme events for the water balance (Jenő Lábdy, OVF)

16.30 A newly developed Hungarian drought index appropriate for daily assessment (HDI) (Károly Barta, University of Szeged)

16.45 The role of remote sensing in drought monitoring (Tibor Bíró, Szent István University)

17.00 To cope with water scarcity in the Middle-Tisza region (Attila Lovas, KÖTIVIZIG)

17.15 Discussion

17.45 Wrap up and conclusion (István Láng, OVF)

3. Report

Report (*max 2000 characters*)

short description of the 3rd NCD

The meeting was convened by GWP Hungary in collaboration with the National Directorate of Water Management and the Hungarian Hydrological Society with the objective to support the national process of the development of the Drought Management Plan in Hungary through national consultation dialogues following up the WMO-GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme.

Invitations had been sent to all key players of the field, including governmental officers, background institutions, practitioners, scientists, researchers, university lecturers (academia), Chamber of Agriculture, professional associations, experts involved in RBMP, Met Service and those attended the 1st or 2nd national consultations.

The venue of the consultation was the XXXIV. Annual Roving Conference of the Hungarian Hydrological Society in the premises of the Debrecen University, Debrecen. The agenda included presentations and moderated discussion in order to gather information about the recent results of the field.

The discussion touched the issues of comparing different drought indices, the advantages of the newly developed drought index to the “old” indices (modular nature, using recent information, appropriate for forecast, etc.), the up-to-date data requirements, the limit values of different drought stages, methods of soil moisture measurement, the solutions in case of lack of soil moisture data, the verification of remote sensing with ground-borne data, the estimation of damages, the utilisation of modelling (to fill data gap), the methods of operative handling of water scarcity, climate change scenarios, expected climate changes in the Carpathian basin, increasing frequency of extremities, making benefit of monitoring results, the support of the National Water Management Council in forming a complex and operative drought management system, moving water balance index of an area, daily assessment, necessary infrastructure

(human and institutional), evaluation of year 2015, cooperation with the met service, designing monitoring network, mapping soil moisture, assessment of the UNCCD, decrees of drought, field capacity, available water resources, adaptation, mitigation, irrigation, drought committee set up and composition.

Outcomes

Briefly explain what were the main outcomes of your NCD and if you have achieved any of the below listed outcomes.

The NCD clearly showed a consensus for and endorsement of the drought management concept presented by the deputy director general National Directorate of Water Management and developed considering the GWP CEE/WMO drought guidance document. The discussion helped collect ideas to be considered for the detailed elaboration of national drought strategy and setting up a national drought committee. The latter is suggested to establish in the framework of the Inter-sectoral Committee on the “Improving of The Water Efficiency in Agricultural Water Management” of the Chamber of Agriculture, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Agriculture. The drafting of the relevant legislation will then be the responsibility of the Inter-Sectoral Committee. The consultation also contributed to gain political will in order to raise the profile of DMP. The newly developed HDI will be applicable to provide daily data and ensuring early warning and quick mitigation measures, in case of the onset of a drought.

Next steps

What were the next steps agreed on the NCD?

Dissemination of the results through the CWP’s webpage, media, circular letters.
Cooperation with the Chamber of Agriculture in order to promote the establishment of the National Drought Committee and to prepare the relevant piece of legislation.

Impacts that IDMP CEE have in your country

Please explain what are the main impacts in your country that are in some way connected with the IDMP CEE activities (NCDs, demonstration projects, etc.). What kind of changes have you noticed in the last two years in a field of the drought management in your country?

During the last decade the issue of drought has been raised and dropped in the political agenda according to the alteration of wet and dry periods. Recent drought events of important loss have called the attention to this slow onset disaster and the government started to collect information and knowledge to handle drought in a pro-active way. In the course of the IDMP CEE Project offered a hand what the Hungarian authorities accepted and a good cooperation has developed between them and GWP Hungary. All three NCDs were organized mutually and the IDMP CEE Guidelines for preparation of the Drought Management Plans was jointly published by the CWP and the National Directorate of Water Management. The drought management concept of the latter was developed considering the results of the Guidelines. The cooperation is continued through the SDG Water Preparedness Facility Program.